ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY

ARKANSAS AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

10800 Financial Centre Parkway

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS DOWN 1 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

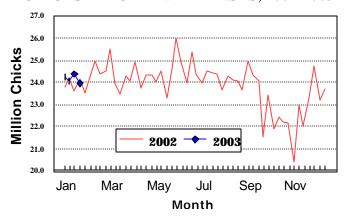
Broiler-type chicks placed for meat production in Arkansas was 24.0 million during the week ending January 25, 2003. Placements were down 1 percent from the comparable week in 2002, and down 2 percent from the previous week, and included 2.2 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2002 through January 25, 2003 were 96.7 million, up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

The broiler-type chicks hatched for the week was 25.6 million, up 3 percent from the corresponding week a year earlier, and up 4 percent from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 3.4 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 83.0 percent.

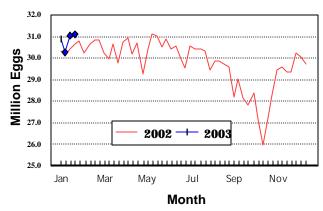
Arkansas hatcheries set 31.1 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending January 25, 2003, up 2 percent from the same period last year, and up fractionally from the previous week.

	NET I	PLACEME	NTS	CHIC	CKS HATCI	HED	EGGS SET			
Week Ending	2001-2002	2002-2003	% Change	2001-	2002-2003	% Change	2001-2002	2002-2003	% Change	
	1,0	000		1,	000		1,			
Dec. 21	26,129	23,254	89	25,714	24,244	94	30,830	30,054	97	
Dec. 28	23,849	23,721	99	24,677	24,193	98	30,596	29,870	98	
Jan. 4	23,827	24,244	102	25,194	24,836	99	30,326	30,873	102	
Jan. 11	24,183	24,081	100	25,342	24,771	98	30,121	30,267	100	
Jan. 18	23,617	24,397	103	25,087	24,693	98	30,421	31,023	102	
Jan. 25	24,158	23,950	99	24,968	25,618	103	30,623	31,087	102	

CHICKS PLACED IN ARKANSAS, 2002-2003



EGGS SET. 2002 - 2003



BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2002-2003

	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKS PLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending				1/	Week Ending						1/
STATE	04-Jan	11-Jan	18-Jan	25-Jan	%	21-Dec	28-Dec	04-Jan	11-Jan	18-Jan	25-Jan	%
Alabama	28,817 *	27,934	27,516	27,573	94	21,620	21,517	21,322	21,069	20,995	21,608	98
ARKANSAS	30,873 *	30,267	31,023	31,087	102	23,254	23,721	24,244	24,081	24,397	23,950	99
Delaware	3,602	3,379	3,582	3,418	93	5,313	4,454	4,908	5,324	5,317 *	4,549	82
Florida	1,562	1,572	1,555	1,581	73	1,754	1,607	1,557	1,502	1,555	1,578	67
Georgia	30,669 *	30,668	30,888	31,330	100	24,836	24,543	24,577	24,309	25,109 *	25,097	96
Kentucky	6,123	6,517	6,336 *	6,331	93	5,186	5,314	5,180	5,392	5,092 *	5,134	93
Maryland	9,670	9,964	9,669 *	9,865	104	5,805	6,383	6,078	5,566	5,583 *	6,565	123
Mississippi	19,023	19,015	18,829	19,241	105	15,907	15,161	15,540	15,285	15,873	15,937	102
N. Carolina	18,535 *	18,287	18,697	18,099	98	14,273	13,978	14,491	14,309	14,091	14,136	98
Oklahoma	6,364	6,420	6,408	6,596	100	4,647	4,388	4,491	4,218	4,066	4,289	97
Pennsylvania	3,600	3,272 *	3,578 *	3,487	100	2,548	2,525	2,574	2,516 *	2,589 *	2,574	101
S. Carolina	4,729	4,756	4,792	4,823	102	3,831	3,939	4,105	3,589	4,341	4,100	111
Texas	14,559	14,709	14,485	14,785	97	11,821	11,729	11,914	11,636	11,769	12,192	101
Virginia	6,355	6,357	6,387	6,629	100	5,901	5,444	5,337	5,161	5,214 *	5,160	90
CA,LA,MO,TN,WV	19,589	19,370	19,346 *	19,927	100	18,005	17,321	18,094	18,324	17,842 *	19,175	107
Total 2002-2003	204,070 *	202,487 *	203,091 *	204,772		164,701	162,024	164,412	162,281 *	163,833 *	166,044	
Total 2001-2002	206,952	204,606	205,220	206,876		170,266	166,034	169,020	168,883	168,359	167,400	
% Prev. Year	99	99	99	99		97	98	97	96	97	99	
Approximate Mai	rketing Dat	te 2003	••••••	••••••	08-Feb	15-Feb	22-Feb	01-Mar	08-Mar	15-Mar		

^{*} Revised.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES DOWN 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 205 million eggs during the week ending January 25, 2003. This was down 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED DOWN 1 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 166 million chicks for meat production during the week ending January 25, 2003. Placements were down 1 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through January 25, 2003 were 657 million, down 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

^{1/} Current week as percent of the same week last year.